

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
September 18, 2015

Spotlighting our Golf Course... Something for the whole family; Clewiston Golf Course is now Junior/Kids friendly. We have set up a new short course for the kids. The new tee color is green and measures 1,854 yards in distance. Front nine only. If you haven't picked up your clubs in awhile or you'd like a new hobby, think about paying them a visit – they'd love to see you.

Dates to Remember:

September 21, 2015 – City Commission Meeting
September 28, 2015 – Final Budget Hearing
October 13, 2015 – Hendry-Clewiston Recreation Board Meeting

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- Director Reese and Emergency Manager Newhouse travelled to the national hurricane center in Miami as part of the “storm ready” initiative for cities and counties throughout the state. This provided valuable information on the operation and forecasting of tropical and daily weather that affects our area. We look forward to continuing our relationship with the staff of the national hurricane center and Miami weather operations.
- The Planning and Zoning Board held a meeting on Thursday, September 10th. On the agenda was a variance request from Pedro Diaz to reduce the minimum yard requirements of the R-3 zoning district. The applicant is proposing to construct two (2) duplexes on a parcel of land located on Central Avenue.
- The Board also discussed the US27 Corridor zoning district and instructed staff to look into updating the Commerce Park zoning to allow for a greater use of building materials within that area.
- Director Reese also attended a meeting at the Administration building in LaBelle for the Enterprise Zone Development Agency.
- Permits are being issued for the first three (3) buildings in the Greentree West community to be located on West Ventura. These buildings will consist of four (4) units with two (2) bedrooms and one (1) bath each.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- Remember to visit www.hendrylibraries.org Your library truly has a lot to offer.

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:

- Stay up to date with all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit the City website at www.clewiston-fl.gov, follow the golf link and sign up on Constant Contact. You will automatically be added to the golf course e-mail blast.
- Golf lessons available - contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- The fairways were sprayed with pre-emergent and the greens were top dressed and fertilized this week.
- Get your grips re-done. Contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Masonic Lodge Golf Tournament was Saturday September 12, 2015. There were 19 players.
- Parent-Child Championship is scheduled for Sunday September 27, 2015. Sign-up in the golf shop. 863-983-1448. We have 15 teams signed up to this point. Tournament starts at 3 p.m. and is 9 holes (Modified Alternate Shot)
- Clewiston Golf Course will be hosting the District High School Boy's and Girl's Golf Tournament Tuesday October 13, 2015. Tournament starts at 10 a.m.
- 2015 Men's Club Championship is Saturday and Sunday October 17th and 18th 2015. Sign-up in the golf shop or call 863-983-1448. There is a low net division and low gross division. The golf course will be open for regular play both days.
- Seminoles In Recovery Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday October 24, 2015 with a 8 a.m. shotgun start. The golf course will be open for regular play.
- **Putts Fore Pets Golf Tournament is scheduled for October 31, 2015. Sign-up is in the golf shop. Call 863-983-1448. Proceeds to benefit Clewiston Animal Shelter.**

Recreation Director Lance Ramer Reports:

- Please visit www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- The Criminal Investigations Division is working diligently on felony cases with new leads and information being established. Several fraud cases have been solved with arrest. CID also identified a subject who provided false information and obtained a driver license in someone else's name through DHSMV. Subject was identified and arrested.
- The patrol officers have been continuing doing a great job with traffic enforcement. As a result we have made several narcotic related and warrant arrests. Patrol officers are also becoming more proactive in their initial response for calls for service, by producing better and more efficient crime scene work.
- Animal Control officers identified a puppy mill operation in Montura and seized over sixty dogs that were malnourished and in medical need. Further investigation is pending.

961 Commercial Security Checks/ Residential Security Checks
511 Complaints Investigated

67	Traffic Citations Issued
12	Arrests Made
09	Code Enforcement Violations opened
08	Rental Inspections
23	Merchant Escorts Provided
13	Alarms Responded To
2	Traffic Accidents Investigated

Utilities Director Williams reports:

PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS: Scam artists are calling Utility customers, posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware of the following.

- 1) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.**
- 2) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.**
- 3) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.**

If you feel you have been a victim of this scam, please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.

- The Water/Sewer crew made a new water tap 545 East Avenida Del Rio, checked all lift stations and is running a new 2" water line from Harlem Academy to Georgia Avenue. Three water/sewer services were disconnected for demolition of property.
- The Electric crew changed out a transformer at the Wastewater Treatment Plant that was hit by lightning, repaired an underground service at the Civic Center in Harlem and ran a new underground service in Orchard Park. One service in Harlem and two services in town were removed for demolition. A pole was changed out on Feeder 3 early Sunday morning due to a vehicle hitting pole and three poles were changed out in Harlem as part of regular maintenance. A service was repaired on Trocadero Street.
- Effective October 1, 2015 Clewiston Utilities will no longer mail the yellow reminder/late notice.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.

- ONLINE BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE on our web site at www.clewiston-fl.gov or www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl.

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: In checking traps last week, two of the four traps each caught over a thousand mosquitoes; an aerial spray was conducted Tuesday evening and a ground mission is scheduled for Friday evening.
- Street Maintenance:
 - Staff performed an evaluation and maintenance of storm drains after the six inch rain we received on Thursday. I am happy to report that Clewiston drained quickly after the rains stopped. FYI, our drainage system is designed to handle four inches of rain in an eight hour period.
 - Staff removed a stump and two palms from a utility easement on Okeechobee Blvd. and will plant the palms at the waste water treatment plant.
- US27 Rebuild: **Started on June 15, 2015.** Day 100 of 150 into the project.
- West Pasadena Project: There were nine bids submitted for this project. City Engineers Johnson-Prewitt will make a recommendation at Monday night's Commission meeting.
- Boat Basin project: Seven bids were submitted for the drainage infrastructure on the west side of the boat basin property. This project is necessary to meet water quality requirements set by the State. City Engineers Johnson-Prewitt will make a recommendation at Monday night's Commission meeting.
- Civic Park Rebuild: The forms for the columns and the retaining wall bench were poured. Staff had to overcome some difficulties with the concrete pour, but persevered and got the job completed. The forms will be removed on Monday.
- Veterans Memorial Fund raiser: The money raised during the last fund raiser by the Elks Club fell a little short of the goal for the metal work planned for the entrance off of Royal Palm Ave. There is currently a prize drawing donation scheduled for two hunting guns. Please look for this opportunity to help with this project. The VFW has contacted the Public Works Director and expressed interest in making a contribution.